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FOURTEEN NEW CHRYSOMELID BEETLES FROM JAMAICA

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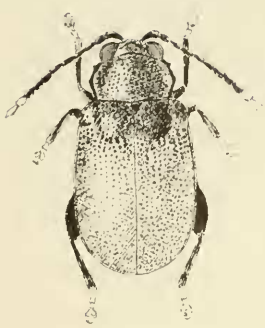
ABSTRACT—Fourteen new species in nine genera of chrysomelid beetles are described from Jamaica.

The following new beetles were described from the collection at the Science Museum, Institute of Jamaica at Kingston, from the Canadian National Collection at Ottawa and from Mrs. Anne Howden's collection.

***Oedionychus jamaicensis* Jacoby**
(Fig. 5)

Oedionychus jamaicensis Jacoby, *Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, 1894, p. 621.

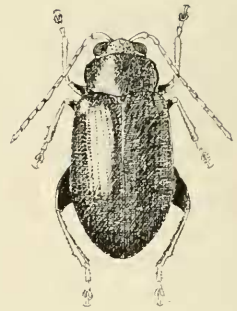
In his description of this species Jacoby wrote that it was the only *Oedionychus* in Jamaica. Recently I have described a second one, *O. gurneyi*, from this island. Because I had not seen any specimen of Jacoby's species in any collection until I examined the Howden col-



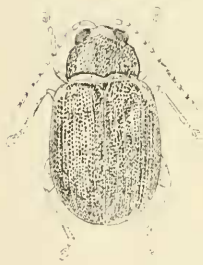
1. *Sidfaya bicolor* n.sp.



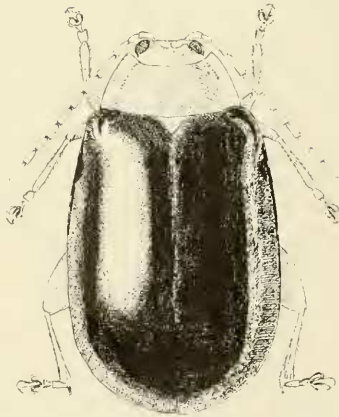
2. *Sidfaya entima* n.sp.



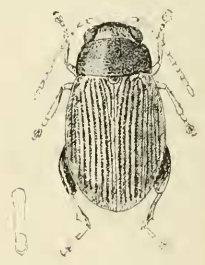
3. *Chaetocnema stenura* n.sp.



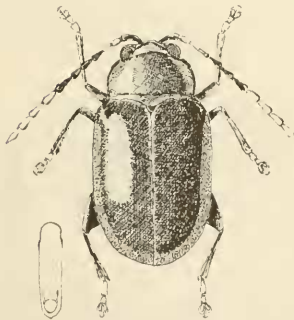
4. *Hermaeophaga tarri* n.sp.



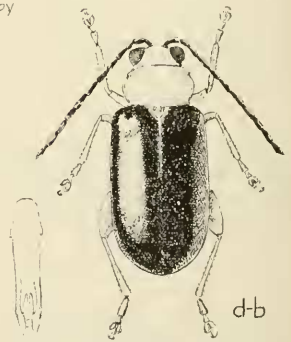
5. *Oedionychus jamaicensis* Jacoby



6. *Chaetocnema brunnescens jamaicensis* n.sp.



7. *Hermaeophaga beckeri* n.sp.



8. *Cysylus jamaicanus* n.sp.

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lection made in the summer of 1966, when Mrs. Anne Howden collected one, a female, at Hardwar Gap, alt. 4000 ft., I am illustrating this apparently rare beetle. It has much the same appearance as *O. bicolor* L. which is found in Cuba, Hispaniola and Puerto Rico but is larger and the entire undersurface and legs are pale yellow brown. In *O. bicolor* the posterior femora are metallic blue or green. The difference in size and the coloring of the hind femora are the only marks of distinction between the two species.

***Lactica albiterminata*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 13)

Elongate oblong oval, lustrous violet blue with black antennae having three terminal joints yellowish white.

Head entirely dark and shiny, impunctate, with well marked frontal tubercles, a strong carina down front. Antennae black, extending half length of beetle, joints three to seven long, terminal three joints shorter and pale yellowish white. Prothorax about twice as wide as long with arcuate sides and strong basal sulcus limited at ends, shining, impunctate, deep blue. Scutellum lustrous, dark. Elytra elongate, wider behind middle, a short intrahumeral sulcus, prominent humeri, moderately convex with no other depressions, lustrous violet blue, impunctate. Body beneath and legs dark with deep bluish lustre. Length 2.9 mm.; width 1.5 mm.

Type, female, Canadian National Collection, temporarily on loan from Mrs. Anne Howden's collection.

Type locality.—Barbecue Bottom, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, August 10, 1966, A. T. Howden.

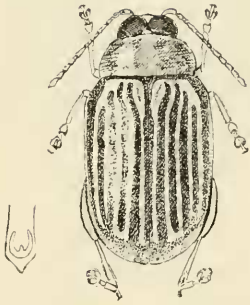
This resembles *L. darlingtoni* Blake also from Jamaica, but instead of being blue or bluish green, this species is a violet blue and the dark antennae have the three terminal joints yellowish white. *L. jamaicensis* Blake is metallic green with a coppery or rosy lustre and has entirely dark antennae.

***Crysilus jamaicanus*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 8)

Elongate oblong oval, lustrous reddish brown with piceous antennae and deep blue elytra; occiput of head and pronotum mirror smooth, elytra very inconspicuously punctate in basal half and not at all in apical half.

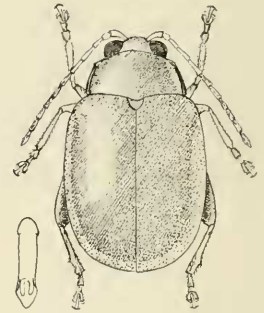
Head with interocular space half width of head, occiput smoothly rounded and impunctate, uninterrupted by frontal tubercles, down to antennal sockets. A short interantennal carina, lower front depressed. Antennae extending nearly to middle of elytra, deep brown to piceous, third joint shorter than fourth, sixth and seventh joints long, remainder slightly shorter. Prothorax with arcuate sides and obtuse angles anteriorly, nearly twice as wide as long, mirror smooth, orange yellow. Scutellum deep reddish brown. Elytra about four times as long as prothorax and somewhat wider with small humeral prominences and nearly impunctate surface, a very inconspicuous punctation tending to be striate in which faint fine punctures are discernible only in basal half. Body beneath and legs



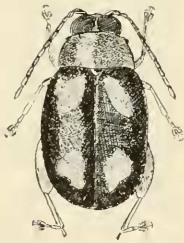
9. *Megistops rhabdota* n.sp.



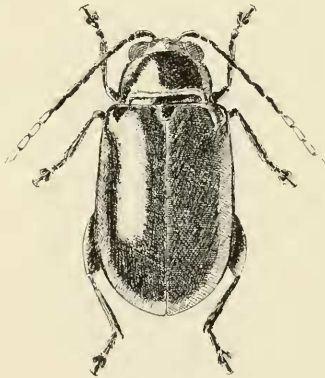
10. *Heikeringella jamaicae* n.sp.



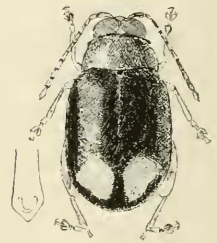
11. *Heikeringella jamaicae* n.sp.



12. *Megistops parvula* n.sp.



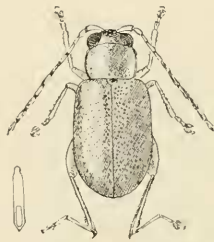
13. *Lactica albiterminata* n.sp.



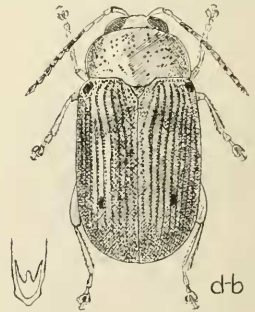
14. *Megistops parvula* n.sp.



15. *Apraea maculata* n.sp.



16. *Longitarsus howdeni* n.sp.



17. *Apraea annea* n.sp.

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reddish brown, first hind tarsal joint in male dilated as in related species in the West Indies. Aedeagus with divided apex also as in other species of the group. Length 3.4 mm.; width 1.6 mm.

Type, male, Canadian National Collection.

Type locality.—Hardwar Gap, Jamaica, July 25, 1966, Howard and Becker.

Other locality.—Pentyne Castle, St. Thomas Parish, July 20, 1966, A. T. Howden.

This is the sixth species of the genus to be collected in the West Indies. This group in the West Indies is as homogeneous as the species of *Homoschema*, and this very homogeneity may warrant putting them in a genus by themselves. All of them have a distinctive aedeagus that has a peculiar two-pronged apex, and in this respect they differ from *C. recticollis* Jac., the only Central American species that I have examined. *C. jamaicanus* differs from the others in the West Indian group in small details; it is smaller than *C. cubensis* Blake, larger than *C. montserrati* Blake, narrower and smaller than *C. hispaniolae* Blake, and although of about the same size as *C. cyanipennis* (Weise) of Puerto Rico, it has longer and dark instead of pale yellow antennae. It differs from *C. trinitatis* Blake in size and coloring, *C. trinitatis* varying from having the elytra the usual deep blue to being entirely reddish brown, although sometimes with a bluish lustre. This last species, unlike the others, resembles *C. recticollis* Jac. in having distinctly striate punctate elytra, and in this regard, the elytral punctuation of *C. jamaicanus* also appears to be striate.

***Chaetocnema stenura*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 3)

Elongate oblong oval, shining black with pale yellow brown antennae and pale tibiae and tarsi, femora more or less piceous, head and prothorax distinctly alutaceous and finely and rather densely punctate; elytra shining, not at all alutaceous with small, regular, not deeply impressed striate punctures, apex of elytra strongly attenuated.

Head entirely dark piceous, interocular space half width of head, occiput rounded, dull alutaceous with fine punctures, a deep sulcus from eye to antennal sockets, a transverse sulcus separating clypeus; interantennal area broad, slightly produced and shining, not alutaceous. Antennae with basal joints pale yellow and joints six to eleven deeper yellow brown, not extending below middle of elytra, two basal joints a little inflated, seventh joint long, rest subequal. Prothorax twice as wide as long, not as wide as elytra with slightly rounded sides and obtuse angles anteriorly, slightly convex, strongly alutaceous and with fine, rather dense punctures; faintly shining black. Scutellum small, shining black. Elytra fully four times as long as prothorax and wider with small humeral prominences and short intrahumeral sulcus and faint transverse depression below; apical half strongly attenuated; striate punctures small, close set and not deeply impressed with wide, flat intervals, except near lateral margin below humeri where they are slightly raised, scarcely costate, and near apex where punctures become very fine with

only an impressed line to mark them; surface very shiny, not at all alutaceous. Body beneath shining piceous with femora more or less piceous but tibiae and tarsi yellow brown. Length 2-2.2 mm.; width 1.1 mm.

Type, female, and one female paratype, Canadian National Collection, one female paratype U.S.N.M.

Type locality.—Hardwar Gap, 4000 ft. alt., Jamaica, July 2, 9, 1966, Howden and Becker.

The only species of *Chaetocnema* so far described from Jamaica is *C. pallidicornis* Baly (Trans. Ent. Soc. London, 1877, p. 303), a "cupreous" beetle which is "at once separated by the transverse depression of the elytra." He describes the elytral striae as "distinctly sulcate" with the interspaces "finely granulate." In all these points *C. stenura* differs from Baly's description.

***Chaetocnema brunnescens jamaicensis*, n. ssp.**

(Fig. 6)

Elongate ovate, piceous, somewhat shiny, head and prothorax alutaceous and densely punctate, elytra lustrous with closely set, small, striate punctures, intervals with finer punctures; antennae and legs pale yellow brown, hind femora reddish brown to piceous.

Head with widely set eyes, smoothly rounded over occiput, a deep transverse sulcus separating front from clypeus and a short, rounded interantennal area, lower front short, occiput densely punctate and alutaceous, shining faintly, sometimes with an aeneous lustre. Antennae pale yellow, not reaching middle of elytra. Prothorax approximately twice as wide as long with slightly rounded sides, surface densely but shallowly punctate and alutaceous; entirely dark piceous, somewhat shiny. Scutellum small, shining, black. Elytra nearly four times as long as prothorax and at base not much wider with very inconspicuous humeri, gradually widening and with moderately deeply impressed close set striate punctures that on the side have slightly costate intervals; wings below short. Body beneath entirely shining piceous, legs reddish brown and hind femora varying from deep reddish brown to piceous. Length 1.7-1.9 mm.; width 1 mm.

Type and one paratype Canadian National Collection, one paratype U.S.N.M.

Type locality.—Palisadoes, Kingston, Jamaica, August 25, 1966, Howden and Becker.

Other locality.—Near Falmouth, Trelawny Parish, August 9, 1966, Howden and Becker.

This so closely resembles Horn's Florida species, *C. brunnescens*, that I believe it can be only a subspecies. None of the Jamaican specimens, however, are brown, but all shining piceous black, and the elytral punctuation appears a little finer and more closely set.

***Chaetocnema platicephalo*, n. n.**

Chaetocnema laticeps Blake, 1941, Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. 43:176 (Haiti). Preoccupied by *C. laticeps* Baly, 1877, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond., p. 315 (Australia).

Longitarsus howdeni, n. sp.

(Fig. 16)

Elongate oblong oval, shining, varying in color from yellow brown to deep reddish brown with pale legs and bicolored antennae; prothorax finely punctate in basal half, elytra more distinctly but not coarsely punctate.

Head with interocular space half width of head, occiput rounded, impunctate, polished with little trace of frontal tubercles, a narrow carina from between antennal sockets down lower front, on either side of this shallowly excavate. Antennae more than half as long as beetle, basal joints pale, joints six to eleven deeper brown and wider. Prothorax not twice as wide as long, with nearly straight sides and oblique angles anteriorly, somewhat convex, lustrous, varying from yellow brown to deep reddish brown, almost piceous; finely punctate in basal half. Scutellum small, rounded. Elytra wider than prothorax, convex, with small humeri and no depressions, distinctly and moderately densely punctate; punctures becoming much finer and fainter at apex; color varying from yellow brown to deep reddish brown. Body beneath shining and as in upper surface varying in color; hind femora tending to be deeper brown; first hind tarsal joint unusually long even for a species of *Longitarsus*, and with the usual spur at end of hind tibiae. Length 1.5–1.6 mm.; width 0.8 mm.

Type, male and one paratype, Canadian National Collection, one paratype U.S.N.M.

Type locality.—Duncans, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, Aug. 13–23, 1966, Howden and Becker.

Other localities.—Good Hope, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, August 8–17, 1966, Howden and Becker; Mizpah, Manchester Parish, Jamaica, Aug. 5–13, 1966, Howden and Becker.

This is not so coarsely punctate a species as *L. felis* Blake. It has unusually long hind tibiae and the first tarsal joint is long even for *Longitarsus*, and in addition the antennae are more than half as long as the beetle.

Hermaeophaga beckeri, n. sp.

(Fig. 7)

Elongate oval, shining blue, elytra often with violet lustre, antennae with second and third and apical joints tending to be pale yellow brown, remainder darker, tarsi also brown, pronotum impunctate, elytra very finely punctate.

Head with polished impunctate occiput, a deep sulcus across to frontal tubercles, frontal tubercles clearly cut. Antennae stout and hairy, reaching to middle of elytra, in many specimens joints two and three and apical four joints paler yellow brown. Prothorax approximately twice as wide as long with arcuate sides and obtuse angle anteriorly, a deep curving sulcus near base that extends across entire prothorax, surface lustrous dark blue, impunctate. Scutellum small, triangular, shining dark blue. Elytra wider and more convex than prothorax with small humeri and smooth lustrous blue or violet blue surface, very finely geminate striate punctate in basal half, in some specimens punctation nearly invisible. Body beneath entirely dark with some bluish lustre especially noticeable on prosternum and femora, tarsal joints reddish brown. Length 2–2.5 mm.; width 1.1–1.4 mm.

Type, male, and 2 paratypes Canadian National Collection, 2 paratypes in U.S.N.M.

Type locality.—Duncans, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, July 22, 1966, Howden and Becker.

Other localities.—Mahogany Vale, St. Andrews Parish, Jamaica, July 20, 1966, Howden and Becker.

The blue species of *Hermacophaga* resembling the Jamaican one in other West Indian islands are *H. cubana* Bryant from Cuba, a larger species, and *H. cylindrica* Weise from Puerto Rico, a longer, more slender species with dense and more distinct punctation. In the Jamaican material a large series from Mahogany Vale in St. Andrews Parish are somewhat smaller than the ones from Duncans on the north coast, and with darker antennae, and, in some instances, more apparent punctation. Otherwise, I can see no differences. The aedeagi of all these species are very much alike so that character cannot be relied upon for differentiating the species.

***Hermacophaga farri*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 4)

Ovate, shining, head, prothorax and legs reddish brown, elytra piceous, shining with a bronzy, sometimes rosy or green lustre, prothorax not so shiny, rugosely punctate, elytra with coarse semigeminate striate punctation, intervals especially on sides being costate.

Head with interocular space less than half width of head, occiput polished, rounded, impunctate with deep line running to frontal tubercles, a short carina and short lower front, deep reddish brown with paler yellowish brown mouthparts. Antennae not extending to middle of elytra, with stouter and deeper brown outer joints, basal joints pale yellow brown. Prothorax with rounded sides and oblique angles anteriorly, sinuate over scutellum, moderately convex, a basal sulcus extending across pronotum, surface with somewhat strigose punctation, dense but rather obsolete, deep reddish brown, not very shiny. Scutellum reddish brown. Elytra broad and convex with small humeri and dense deep coarse punctures in somewhat irregular semi-geminate striate rows. Body beneath reddish brown to piceous with legs yellowish or reddish brown, hind femora enlarged. Length 1.8–2 mm.; width 1 mm.

Type and 1 paratype U.S.N.M. Cat. No. 70067, 1 paratype in Science Museum, Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica.

Type locality.—St. Thomas Parish, Morant Point, Jamaica, May 8, 1964, T. H. Farr.

Other locality.—Hardwar Gap, Portland Parish, Aug. 8, 1965, T. H. Farr.

This is a small species with a deep reddish brown head and prothorax as is so often the case in this genus, but instead of blue or green elytra, it has bronzy black elytra often with a rosy or aeneous lustre, and very coarse dense punctures tending to be in double rows all over the elytra. The density of this elytral punctation is unusual in the genus.

***Sidfaya entima*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 2)

Oval, lustrous black, in two of the four specimens with a slight greenish tinge, tarsal joints yellow brown and antennae with bicolored joints; prothorax moderately coarsely and not very densely punctate, elytra with coarser, denser punctures in basal half becoming finer and less dense after the middle.

Head with interocular space less than half width of head, occiput polished, impunctate, a sulcus from eye running across to frontal tubercles which are polished and a little swollen, a short interantennal carina, lower front depressed, almost declivous. Antennae with basal and seventh and eighth joints dark, remainder pale, not extending to middle of elytra. Prothorax approximately twice as wide as long, moderately convex, with sides showing a median angularity and sharply defined obtuse angle behind eye; surface lustrous, with coarse but not very dense punctures. Scutellum black. Elytra convex, widest behind middle, with prominent humeri and a transverse depression below basal umbones; surface lustrous black, faintly greenish in two of the four specimens, punctures in basal half coarser than in apical half and not as dense as in *Sidfaya punctatissima* Blake. Body beneath and legs shining dark brown to piceous, tarsal joints yellow brown. Length 1.9–2.3 mm.; width 1.1–1.3 mm.

Type, female, in Canadian National Collection, 1 paratype U.S.N.M.

Type locality.—Hardwar Gap, 4000 ft. alt., Jamaica, July 3, 14, 1966, Howden and Becker.

Other localities.—Blue Mt. Peak, 7200 ft. alt., Jamaica, Howden and Becker. Mahogany Vale, St. Andrews Parish, Jamaica, July 12, 1966, A. T. Howden.

This is the fourth species of the genus to be described and the second from Jamaica. It is a little smaller and less coarsely and densely punctate than *S. punctatissima*, from Jamaica, and has a slight color difference in that the tarsal joints are pale and two of the four specimens have a greenish tinge. There is also a color difference in the antennal joints, which are bicolored. This species so far has been collected in three localities, all not far apart, in the Blue Mountain region of eastern Jamaica.

***Sidfaya bicolor*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 1)

Ovate, shining, head, prothorax, legs except tarsal joints, and base of elytra piceous, antennae piceous except two pale reddish brown apical joints, elytra below piceous base reddish brown, metasternum and abdomen also reddish brown; pronotum not densely but distinctly punctate, elytra with coarser punctures in basal part becoming fine and not so dense in apical half.

Head with interocular space less than half width of head, occiput polished, impunctate; a deep cut line from eye to frontal tubercles and short, rounded interantennal area, lower front depressed and short. Antennae with outer joints wider and appearing rounder than basal ones, all but two apical joints black, apical ones reddish brown, two basal joints swollen. Prothorax not twice as wide as long, slightly convex with obtuse angle anteriorly and wide angularity at middle of side,

and at base a small tooth, surface lustrous black with punctures only moderately dense. Scutellum small, black. Elytra more than three times as long as prothorax, wider behind middle, strongly convex, with small prominent humeri and short intrahumeral sulcus and a transverse depression below basal callosities; punctuation near base and about humeri coarser and denser than in apical half, becoming faint at apex, with a slight tendency to being striate especially on sides and in transverse depression; shining black over humeri and basal umbones and reddish brown over rest of elytra. Body beneath with prosternum dark, metasternum and abdomen reddish brown, legs black except the reddish brown tarsal joints. Length 2.2 mm.; width 1.1 mm.

Type, ? female, Canadian National Collection.

Type locality.—St. Peters, St. Andrews Parish, Jamaica, July 7, 1966, Howden and Becker.

This is the fifth species of the genus to be described and the third from Jamaica. Unlike the rest this one is not all dark but has the elytra bicolored with a basal dark area over humeri and umbones, the rest being entirely reddish brown. It closely resembles *S. entima* in punctuation and also in having pale tarsal joints, but unlike that species only the last two joints of the antennae are pale. The one specimen examined is a little larger than any of the four known specimens of *S. entima*.

Apraea annea, n. sp.

(Fig. 17)

Oblong oval, shining yellow brown with a small piceous spot on humerus and often another in middle near apex, punctuation on pronotum scattered, not dense, striate punctures on elytra close set with intervals somewhat costate and often with finer scattered punctures.

Head with large eyes and interocular space less than a third width of head, frontal tubercles sharply defined, a short knob of a carina between antennal sockets, lower front declivous, entirely yellow brown. Antennae not extending much below humeri, with three basal joints pale yellow brown, remainder deep brown, first joint long, joints three to six longer than rest. Prothorax approximately twice as wide as long with rounded sides and a deep sinuous curve of basal margin over scutellum, moderately convex, surface shining yellow brown, slightly rugose with scattered, not dense punctures. Scutellum yellowish or reddish brown, small, triangular. Elytra nearly three times as long as prothorax and not much wider with poorly defined humeri and close set striate punctures that are distinct to apex, intervals somewhat costate with numerous finer punctures, occasionally striate punctures irregularly geminate, yellow brown with a small piceous spot on humerus, and usually another near apex. Body beneath entirely yellow brown, legs short, femora, especially hind ones, enlarged. Length 3.4–4.4 mm.; width 1.8–2.5 mm.

Type, male, and 8 paratypes, Canadian National Collection, 3 paratypes U.S.N.M., 1 paratype in Institute of Jamaica.

Type locality.—Duncans, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, Aug. 5–22, 1966, Howden and Becker, Mrs. Anne Howden.

Other locality.—Hardwar Gap, July 19–23, 1966, Howden and Becker.

This is the third species of *Apraea* to be described from Jamaica. The first species of the genus, *A. jansoni* Baly, from Jamaica, is a tiny bronze beetle with regular striate punctate elytra and a smooth surface. The second species which I described as *A. jamaicensis* (Blake, 1963, Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. 65:19) is also a bronzy beetle but has a much rougher surface with more irregular striate punctation and costae. The present species resembles those from Cuba and Puerto Rico in being yellow brown and has fairly regular elytral striae and a tendency to being costate. The fourth and following species from Jamaica, *A. maculata*, n. sp., has unusual elytral dark markings. The present species is dedicated to Mrs. Anne Howden who on this trip collected seven new species of Chrysomelidae.

***Apraea maculata*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 15)

Oblong oval, shining, pale yellow brown with dark brown to piceous markings on pronotum over scutellum and about scutellum on elytra, and a dark humeral blotch and long semivittate median line extending from below middle to near apex, also dark sutural edges near apex, pronotum with scattered, not dense punctures, elytra with irregularly geminate striate punctation.

Head with interocular space considerably less than half width of head, eyes very large, frontal tubercles clearly cut and a short interantennal carina, lower front somewhat declivous. Antennae extending below humeri, third joint long, first three joints pale, remainder dark brown. Prothorax nearly three times as wide as long, not very convex with rounded sides, and somewhat uneven surface, with scattered, not dense punctures, pale yellow brown, in one specimen with a darkening over the scutellum. Scutellum dark. Elytra pale yellow brown with darkening about scutellum and a round dark area over humeri, a vittate median dark area down from before middle to apical curve, a small spot near it on side, and sutural edges before apex also dark. Striate punctation irregularly geminate and punctures distinct to apex. Body beneath and legs pale yellow brown, legs short, femora, especially hind ones, enlarged. Length 3.5 mm.; width 1.6 mm.

Type, male, in Canadian National Collection.

Type locality.—Duncans, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, August 23, 1966, Howden and Becker.

Other locality.—Hardwar Gap, 4000 ft. Jamaica, July 19, 1966, Howden and Becker.

The distinctive characters of this species are the coloring and the elytral punctation. The pale yellow brown background of the beetle is flecked with dark brown to piceous markings, sometimes along the base of the pronotum and base of elytra with a dark humeral blotch and a somewhat curving median vitta from before middle to apical curve. The elytral striae are more or less irregularly geminate, in this respect differing from *A. anneae* in which the striate punctation is

even and not geminate. There are two darker specimens collected at Hardwar Gap on July 19 also, in which the elytral spots are more or less united into a large irregular median area and the humeral dark blotch is connected in the transverse depression with the median dark area.

***Megistops rhabdota*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 9)

Elongate oval, rather dull alutaceous yellow brown with four deep brown vittae on each elytron extending nearly the entire length, intervening pale vittate intervals narrower, base, suture and margin brown, antennae brown.

Head with large eyes meeting on occiput, well developed frontal tubercles and a short broad carina crowded between huge eyes, lower front declivous. Prothorax strongly convex with slightly curved sides, dirty yellowish brown with faint traces of spotting, alutaceous, not shiny. Scutellum small, triangular, dark brown. Elytra smoothly convex, without any depressions, faintly shining although alutaceous, yellow brown with all margins and suture dark brown, five long pale vittate intervals between four long straight dark brown vittae on each elytron narrower than the dark vittae, dark vittae not quite reaching base. Body beneath mostly yellow brown, shining, legs short with much enlarged femora, pale yellow brown, hind tibiae with the usual broad apical spur. Length 3.4-4 mm.; width 1.7-2 mm.

Type, male, and 2 paratypes, Canadian National Collection, 2 paratypes in U.S.N.M.

Type locality.—Duncans, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, August 7-22, 1966, A. T. Howden and H. F. Howden and E. C. Becker.

From Cuba, Puerto Rico and Hispaniola there have been described species of *Megistops* with short vittae instead of the usual spots found in most species of the genus. In this, the first species of the genus found in Jamaica, these short vittae such as occur in the other West Indian islands are replaced by four long straight vittae on each elytron, which while they do not quite reach the base extend the whole length, at the apex vanishing in the dark margin that runs along the base, sides, apex and sutural edges. While all these vittate species are closely related, they do show distinct peculiarities in each island, and the aedeagi in some such as *M. bryanti* Blake are very unlike.

***Megistops parvula*, n. sp.**

(Figs. 12, 14)

Elongate ovate, not shiny, alutaceous, head and prothorax dull dark reddish brown, elytra piceous, a large reddish brown apical spot or two spots one near base, one apical, on each elytron, legs and undersurface yellowish brown.

Head with large eyes meeting on occiput, frontal tubercles swollen, only a remnant of carina between antennal sockets, lower front shallowly scooped out, reddish brown with piceous labrum. Antennae filiform, two basal joints a little enlarged and paler, remainder dark brown, fourth joint twice as long as third, fifth longer than fourth, remainder diminishing slightly. Prothorax twice as wide as long, convex, with nearly straight sides narrowing anteriorly and with an obtuse angle behind eye, basal margin slightly sinuous over scutellum, surface granular,

not at all shiny, dark reddish brown. Scutellum small, triangular, piceous. Elytra smoothly convex, without depressions, alutaceous, faintly shining, deep piceous with a large irregularly rounded reddish brown spot at apex of each elytron or with two spots, one basal, the other apical, basal one cylindrical. Body beneath and legs yellowish brown, hind femora darkened at apex, and much enlarged, hind tibiae with broad spur at tip. Length 3.1 mm.; width 1.5 mm.

Type, male, and one paratype, Canadian National Collection, one paratype in U.S.N.M.

Type locality.—Duncans, Trelawny Parish, Jamaica, Aug. 22, 1966, Howden and Becker.

This small species bears the same locality label as well as date of collection as that on specimens of the previous species, *M. rhabdota*, n. sp. It is, however, quite distinct, not only in size and coloration but also in genitalia, from the vittate species, and is more closely related to the species with dark elytra having pale round spots, such as *M. tabebuiae* Blake from Puerto Rico. The three specimens at hand are unusually small for the genus and also darker than most, one specimen having only the two apical spots, the others as in the other spotted species, having four spots.

***Heikertingerella jamaicae*, n. sp.**

(Figs. 10, 11)

Ovate, shining, yellowish or reddish brown, sometimes head, prothorax and base of elytra piceous, and then legs also more or less piceous, very indistinctly punctate.

Head with interocular space less than half its width, occiput smoothly rounded, front with a few fine punctures, very faint, indistinctly marked frontal tubercles, and a short, narrow carina below. Antennae filiform, two basal joints inflated, third joint short, joints four, five, six and seven long, apical joints shorter, deeper in coloring than paler yellow basal ones. Prothorax twice as wide as long at base, contracting in a nearly straight line to eyes, an oblique angle anteriorly, basal margin sinuate over scutellum, disc somewhat convex, polished and very finely punctate. Scutellum shining. Elytra more than three times as long as prothorax, convex, well rounded at apex, without depressions, lustrous, with very fine, inconspicuous punctures becoming indistinct after middle. Body beneath and legs reddish brown, hind femora much enlarged, hind tibiae grooved with outer margin at apex widely emarginate and with a tooth, first tarsal joint a little longer than in anterior tarsi. Length 2–2.5 mm.; width 1.3–1.5 mm.

Type, male, U.S.N.M. Cat. No. 70068 and 3 paratypes, 11 paratypes in Science Museum, Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica.

Type locality.—Long Mt., St. Andrews Parish, Jamaica, June 27, 1954, R. P. Bengry.

Other localities.—12 miles east of Kingston, Morant Bay Rd., St. Thomas Parish, 11 Nov. 1957, T. H. Farr. Hardwar Gap, 4000 ft. alt., July 25, 1966, Howden and Becker.

There appears to be some variation in the coloring of this species. I have seen two specimens, one in the type series, the other collected by Howden and Becker, with the head, prothorax and base of elytra piceous. Dr. Farr writes that there is a blue variant of it also, although he can find no blue specimen in the collection to substantiate this. He states that this species occurs so commonly on *Tecoma stans* (L.) that he has called it the "Tecoma beetle." In its most common color form, yellowish or reddish brown throughout, it resembles closely other yellow brown species of the genus in the West Indies. But the aedeagus is unlike the others, and it is undoubtedly the Jamaican race of a very homogeneous group of species found in the West Indies.

In Jacoby's description of *H. variabilis* (Jacoby, 1885, Biol. Centr. Amer., Coleoptera 6(1):292, under *Euplectroscelis*) he wrote that "the amount of piceous of the elytra is extremely variable, either being confined to the base and apex only, or to the sutural and lateral margins to a greater or smaller degree." This Jamaican species appears to have a similar variability.

SOME AFRICAN FULGOROIDEA IN THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

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ABSTRACT—A list is given for 92 species of African Homoptera representing 58 genera and 11 families. *Capenopsis krameri*, n. sp., from South Africa, *Myndus liberianus*, n. sp., from Liberia, and *Sabecoides ornatus*, n. sp., from Liberia, are described and illustrated.

The present note concerns a small collection of African Homoptera from the United States National Museum sent to me for study on the recommendation of Dr. James P. Kramer, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agriculture Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. It contains the diagnosis of three new species, two from Liberia and one from South Africa.

The value of this collection lies in the great diversity of forms represented and in the opportunity to add to the knowledge of their distribution.

Eleven families are represented by the approximately 400 specimens, as follows:

- Fulgoridae 22 (6 genera, 13 species and forms)
- Dictyopharidae 72 (11 genera, 16 species of which one is new to the science)
- Cixiidae 152 (9 genera, 17 species of which one is new to science)
- Flatidae 48 (10 genera, 15 species)
- Ricaniidae 1 (1 genus, 1 species)